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Shoreline Public Access Gaps and Opportunities

King County, Washington

Public Access Gaps

- Visual Access Gap
- Physical Access Gap
- Visual and Physical Access Gap
- Public Street Ends (potential opportunity for public access)

Existing Informal Access Points

- Natural Lands Informal Access Point - Visual and/or Physical
- Park Informal Access Point- Visual and/or Physical

- Large Privately Owned Timberland
- PBRs Property in SMP Juris. Area (potential visual or physical access)
- Other Water Bodies
- Incorporated Areas
- Potential Annexation Areas

Public Lands

- County
- State
- Federal
- Other Government

Recreation Facilities

- Swimming Beaches
- Trailhead or Parking Lot
- Boat Launch (formal or informal)
- Publicly Owned Dock or Pier
- Camping and/or Picnic Areas
- Location of Multiple Public Access Sites (see boxed symbols for details)
- New Park Facilities Under Development

- Trails Connecting to SMP Jurisdictional Area
- Trails Outside SMP Jurisdictional Area
- Other Major Streams
- King County Boundary
- Medium-High Priority Park/Regional Trail (Greenprint)

Current Shoreline Jurisdiction: King County

- Open Water
- 200 ft Jurisdiction

Draft Criteria for Identifying Shoreline Public Access Gaps

The following draft criteria were used to identify gaps in formal shoreline public access and recreation. Formal public access and recreation sites are those where access is specifically allowed and managed by a public agency. Identifying gaps will help to identify and prioritize public access opportunities that could be established as part of the Shoreline Master Program Public Access Plan.

Gaps include shoreline areas where there is:

- a notable geographic absence in public access opportunities;
- a notable absence in type of public access opportunities (visual, physical, or type of facility);
- informal access and use of sites that confirms demand; and/or
- population concentrated in area or otherwise known demand for access at the site.

Also considered in identifying public access gaps were existing public access plans:

- Public Boating and Fishing Access to the Cedar River (<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/watersheds/cedrLKWA/ceda-r-river-public-access.htm>, October 2006)
- Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River Valley Phase II – River Corridor Public Use Concept (September 1997)

Data Sources:

Public street ends from King County DNR dataset "Street_ends" (08/06). Boat launch, dock/pier, and swimming beaches from "WaterAccessMaster_13Jul06.prj" developed by King County DNR staff, last updated on 11/15/06. Medium-high park/regional trail (Greenprint) data from King County DNR Greenprint project dataset ("Trails_GP", 4/24/06). Large privately owned timberland from ("4th_run_maj_private.shp", 04/05/06), ownership based on King County Assessor's data 1/26/06. Natural Lands informal access points from King County WLRD ORRP dataset ("NRL_Lands_final.shp", 7/6/2006). Parks informal access points from King County DNR dataset ("Park_access_smp.shp", 8/06). Public Access gaps from King County DNR ("accessgaps", 11/06). Additional King County standard datasets utilized for trails ("trail", 5/02); camping and picnic sites ("park_facility", 11/06); parks ("park", 11/06); PBRs parcels ("cut_pbrrs_tim.smp", 05/19/05).

Note:

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